Increasing the operating speed of trains

2229. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Railways have target to increase the maximum operating speed on main lines from 140km./hr. to 160 km./hr.

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this direction;

(c) whether there are any plans to build dedicated lines for heavy freight and passenger lines, separately; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (c) No, Sir.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

Price of wagons

2230. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the price of wagons for year 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 for BOXN, BCNA and PTPN wagons;

(b) whether the above prices are inclusive of the cost of the material to be arranged by the wagon builders and their market price;

(c) the free issue material by Railways; and

(d) the approximate conversion cost per wagon for the above three types?